THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Malnutrition among the children

1899. SHRI DARA SINGH:
SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:
SHRI SURENDRA LATH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether one among three children suffering from malnutrition in the world is in India as per a recent publication of the UNICEF;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating efforts made by Government to deal with this problem;

(c) whether 47 per cent children upto 4 years of age were found suffering from malnutrition on the basis of a child *vis-a-vis* his age, as per National Family Health Survey conducted in 1998-99, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government so far to deal with this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) As per the UNICEF publication entitled. 'Mapping India's children UNICEF in action' one in every three malnourished children in the world lives in India.

As per the National Family Health Survey-ll, conducted in 1998-99, covering children under 3 years of age, 47% are undernourished while 18% are severely undernourished.

The Government has initiated various measures to improve the nutritional and health staus of the population in the country. These measures are:

1. Improving agricultural and horticulture produce.
2. Improving the purchasing power of the people through various income generating schemes.
3. Availability of essential food items at subsidized cost through Public Distribution System.

4. Nutrition Education to increase the awareness and bring about desired changes in the dietary practices including the promotion of breast feeding and dietary diversification.

5. A National Nutrition Policy has been adopted in 1993 and a National Plan of Action for Nutrition (1995) is being implemented through various Departments of Government. The National Nutrition Mission has been set up.

6. Supplementary Feeding Programmes.

   (i) Integrated Child Development Services Schemes (ICDS)

   (ii) National Programme of Nutritional support to Primary Education (Mid-day Meal Programme)

7. Programmes for prevention of Specific Micronutient Deficiency disorders

   (i) Anemia Control Programme — Under the Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme implemented throughout the country, pregnant women and children (1-5 years) are provided with iron and folic acid tablets for prophylaxis and treatment of anemia.

   (ii) Prophylaxis Programme to prevent Nutritional Blindness due to Vitamin A deficiency. This is also under the RCH Programme.

   (iii) National Iodine Deficiency Disease Control Programme (NIDDCP).

   (iv) Pilot Programme for control of Micronutient Deficiencies.

8. Targetted Public Distribution System.

9. Nutrition Programme for adolescent girls.

10. Food for World Programmes.

11. National IDD Control Programme.

12. Kishori Shakti Yojana.

13. Nutrition Education Progammes of FNB.

14. Promotion of optional Infant and Young Child Feeding practices.

15. Antodaya Anna Yojana.

16. Public Health measures — safe driking water and sanitation.

Bird Flu vaccine license

1900. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any danger of Bird Flu virus and its consequences in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that Indian pharmaceutical companies are awaiting for a license to produce and sell drugs to control Bird Flu;

(c) whether Government have ensured testing of H5N1 Bird Flu virus in the laboratoties of India; and

(d) the steps being taken to produce sufficient quantity of drugs eneded in the event of Bird Flu striking on a larger scale in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) World Health Organization (WHO) has issued an alert that Bird Flu could spread to India and other countries from the very first time that the current outbreak on Avian Influenza Virus (H5N1) was first detected in the Republic of Korea in December, 2003.

No case of Bird Flue (Avian Influenza) has been reported in India either in humans or bird in the current outbreak.

M/s. Hetero Drugs an Indian pharmaceutical company has been granted license to manufacture the active pharmaceutical ingredient of Oseltamivir which is the WHO recommended drug.

Department of Animal Husbandary has intensified surveillance and disease intelligence. Samples so far tested at High Security Animal Disease Laboratory (HSADL). Bhopal were found negative.

Order enquiry has been placed for one million dose of Oseltamivir (Tamiflu) with M/S. Roche. Indigenous manufacturing capability for the same drug has been assessed. M/s. CIPLA, M/s. Ranbaxy and